



11-01-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert J. Small and Brandon S. Scott
Assignee: EKC Technology, Inc.
Title: Catalytic Composition For Chemical Mechanical Polishing, Method Of
Using Same, And Substrate Treated With Same
Serial No.: 10/974,757 Filing Date: February 11, 2002
Examiner: Unknown Group Art Unit: 2812
Docket No.: M-12412 US

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San Francisco, California
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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to a first examination of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

In the Specification:

Please delete paragraph labeled [0010] on page 3, and replace it with the replacement paragraph set forth below. A marked copy of the replacement paragraph appears as Item 1 in the Appendix hereto.

The present invention provides a composition for chemical-mechanical polishing which comprises at least one abrasive particle having a surface at least partially coated by a catalyst. The catalyst comprises a metal other than a metal of Group 4(b), Group 5(b) or Group 6(b) of the Periodic Table of Elements. Generally, metals of Group 1(b) or Group 8 are suitable candidates, as are metals having a standard oxidation potential of from about -0.52 to about -0.25 eV. It is believed that the catalyst-coated abrasive favorably interacts with any one of a number of oxidizing agents typically employed in chemical-mechanical polishing compositions. Thus, the composition also comprises such an oxidizing agent. The oxidizing agent is preferably in the

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